



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PSC ISSUES DECISION IN HICKORY HILLS WATER & SEWER COMPANY RATE CASES

JEFFERSON CITY—Annual water operating revenues for the Hickory Hills Water & Sewer Company will be reduced and annual sewer operating revenues increased under a rate case decision issued by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

For residential customers using 6,000 gallons of water a month, monthly water bills will drop from \$28.51 to \$27.04. Sewer bills for residential customers will increase from \$12.35 a month to \$16.63 a month.

The Commission's order, which takes effect on July 1, 2006, reduces annual water revenues by approximately \$840 and increases annual sewer revenues by approximately \$2,400. When the Hickory Hills Water & Sewer Company filed its rate request with the PSC on December 12, 2005, it sought to increase annual water operating revenues by \$2,000 and annual sewer operating revenues by \$2,500.

Through the rate case proceedings, the Commission is aware that the Hickory Hills water and sewer systems are in need of improvements and repair in order to comply with Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulations. The Commission intends for its decision in these rate cases to allow the water and sewer company additional revenues to be used to maintain the plant in proper repair for effective water and sewer service in compliance with DNR and PSC rules.

The Commission noted that a PSC Staff complaint could be filed against the company if it is determined that Hickory Hills is not using its operational funds to improve the system, come into compliance with DNR regulations, or provide safe and adequate service to its customers.

Hickory Hills Water & Sewer Company, Inc. serves approximately 50 water and sewer customers near California, Missouri.

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Case No. WR-2006-0250 & SR-2006-0249